

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 007197

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ORIGIN H-03

INFO OCT-01 PRS-01 ISO-00 ARA-16 SS-20 SAB-01 SSO-00 CCO-00

RSC-01 /043 R

DRAFTED BY H:KBJENKINS:JN

APPROVED BY H:MWRIGHT

ARA - MR. BOWDLER (SUBS)

ARA - MR. MORRIS (DRAFT)

S/S - MR. MILLER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

S/S HOLD FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

PASS TO AMBASSADOR BUNKER

SUBJECT: PANAMA CANAL

1. FOLLOWING MISLEADING WASHINGTON POST STORY YESTERDAY, SENATOR MCCLURE OF IDAHO WAS QUOTED BY REUTERS TODAY AS SAYING, "ADMINISTRATION PLANS TO TURN THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE OVER TO THE PANAMANIAN WILL ENCOUNTER A MAJOR CONGRESSIONAL FIGHT." MCCLURE REPORTEDLY CABLED THE PRESIDENT TO RECONSIDER THIS "INCREDIBLE PROPOSAL." MCCLURE HAS BEEN SOLE PUBLIC CONGRESSIONAL CRITIC SO FAR.

2. NEW YORK TIMES TODAY CARRIED ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF SECRETARY'S REMARKS AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY WHICH EMPHASIZED NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL IN PRELIMINARY STAGE.

3. IN SERIES OF INFORMAL CALLS ON STAFF MEMBERS OF
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HOUSE AND SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEES AND OTHER

KEY CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES, REACTION TO OUR DESCRIPTION
OF THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES WAS UNIFORMLY FAVORABLE.
EVERYONE CONTACTED PRAISED YOUR EFFORTS AND THE PROGRESS
YOU HAVE ACHIEVED ALREADY. THEY ALSO EXPRESSED

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APPRECIATION FOR OUR CONTINUING CONSULTATION.

4. HOUSE MERCHANT MARINE COMMITTEE STAFF CHIEF SAID
THAT HE ANTICIPATES NO PROBLEM WITH THE FRANCE-FIELD
RELATED LEGISLATION IN HIS COMMITTEE. HE WARNED,
HOWEVER, THAT THE BEDROCK OPPOSITION FORCES LED BY
DAN FLOOD WILL START TO ATTACK AS SOON AS THE SESSION
OPENS OR SOONER. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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